Policy Drivers and Challenges for Ethanol Use In Transportation and Production in California

Rice Straw Products Expo 2004
Sacramento Convention Center
California
August 9, 2004

Pat Perez, Manager
Transportation Fuels Office
California Energy
Commission

pperez@energy.state.ca.us



Topics

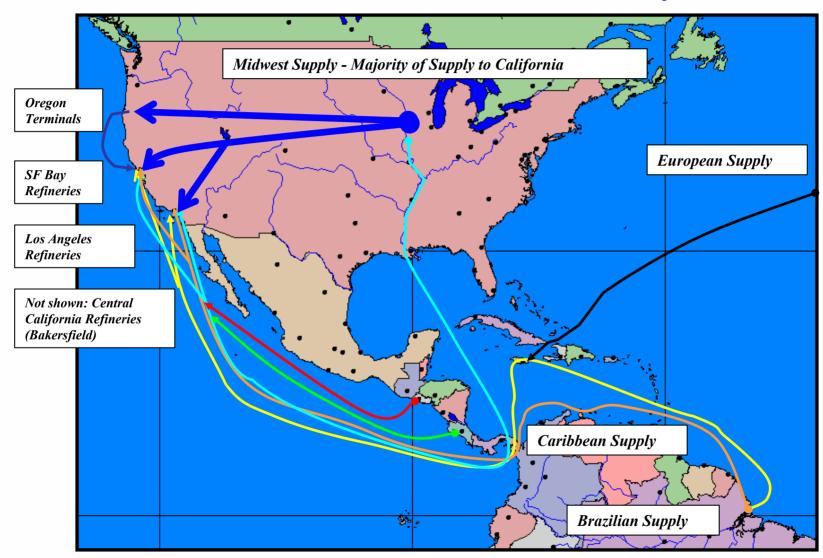
- Background
- Ethanol Supply and Demand
- California's Request for Oxygen Waiver
- Policy Drivers for Use of Ethanol
- Challenges and Opportunities
- California Ethanol Information



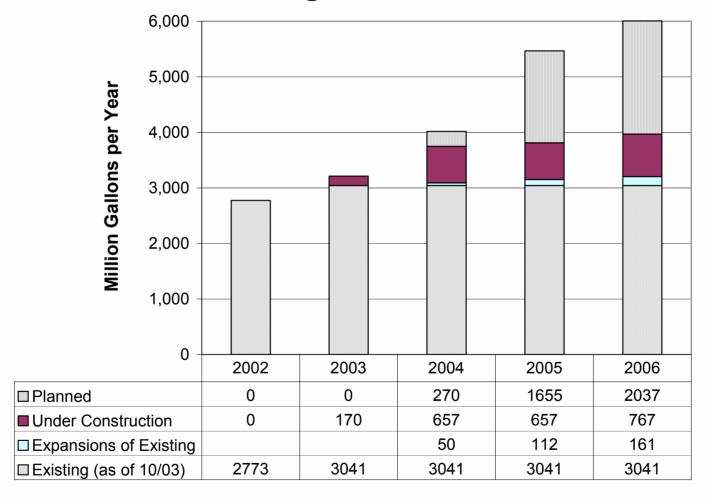
Background

- Primary energy use for ethanol is transportation
- California phases out MTBE use by 1/01/04
- Ethanol is the only oxygenate approved for use in California gasoline
- California is now the largest ethanol consuming state in the nation
 - Demand will approach one billion gallons in 2004
- California produces less than 10 million gallons of ethanol each year

Ethanol Sources and Transportation



Projected USA Ethanol Capacity @ End of Year

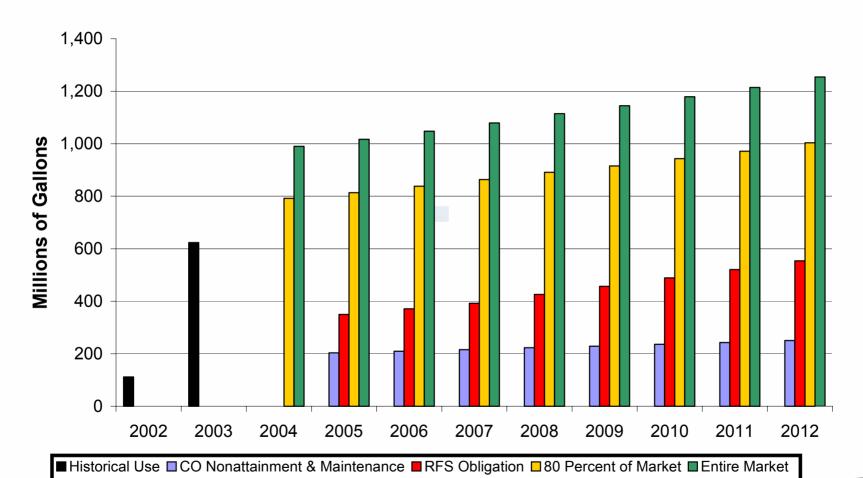




Request to U.S. EPA from Minimum 2% Oxygen Content Waiver

- Governor Schwarzenegger states on 1/29/04:
 - "I recognize the benefit of one aspect of the Clean Air Act (CAA) oxygen requirement — the dramatically increased use of ethanol. However, due to the ban on MTBE use, there will be a very large ethanol market in California even without the CAA oxygen mandate."
 - "California is also considering various mechanisms to spur-in-state ethanol production so that our citizens and our economy benefit directly from the State's increased use of ethanol as a gasoline blending component."

Projected California Ethanol Use High Case Gasoline Demand - 3 Percent Per Annum



Policy Drivers

- 1) Federal energy tax policy (since 1978) makes ethanol competitive with gasoline
- 2) Federal law requires minimum 2 percent by weight oxygen content in all reformulated gasoline (RFG) regions
- Federal winter oxygenated fuels program to reduce carbon monoxide emissions in the South Coast Air Basin and parts of Imperial County
- 4) California Environmental Policy Council determines ethanol as acceptable substitute for MTBE (2000)
- 5) Reduce demand for on-road gasoline and diesel 15 percent below the 2003 level by 2020 and maintain that level for the foreseeable future
- 6) Increase the use of non-petroleum fuels to 20 percent by 2020 and 30 percent by 2030



Uncertainties and Challenges Facing Ethanol Use in California

- Federal Energy Legislation???
- Outcome of California's request for oxygen waiver
- Future California fuel specifications under consideration
 - Sulfur reductions from 20 parts per million (ppm) to 5ppm
 - Oxygen (% weight) reduced from 2% to 0
 - Reid Vapor Pressure from 7.0 psi to 6.5 psi
- Role of higher use of ethanol-blended gasoline on increased emissions of volatile organic compounds.
 - Results of study for Air Resources Board forthcoming on permeation effects of ethanol through hoses and fuel system components
- Current CARB "Predictive Model" for determining acceptable gasoline formulations includes a constraint on 10% ethanol-gasoline blends (Nox penalty) – model parameters scheduled for review/possible revision in 2005

Opportunities for Greater Use of Ethanol in California

- Growing transportation fuel market
- Large agricultural sources as well as cellulosic wastes and residues for making ethanol
- E-10 blends
- E-85 market
- Ethanol/Diesel blends



For More Information about Ethanol

- California Energy Commission's Website at:
 - www.energy.ca.gov/ethanol
 - www.energy.ca.gov/pier/renew/ethanol
- Energy Commission Reports:
 - Ethanol Fuel Incentives Applied in the U.S. Reviewed from California's Perspective (1/04)
 - Ethanol Supply Outlook for California (10/03)
 - 2002 Update of U.S. Ethanol Industry Production Capacity Outlook Report (7/03)
 - U.S. Ethanol Industry Production Capacity Outlook (8/01)
 - Costs and Benefits of a Biomass-to-Ethanol Production Industry in California (3/01)
 - Evaluation of Biomass-to-Ethanol Fuel Potential in California (12/99)